

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/JP2005/004392

Box No. V Reasoned statements under Rule 43 / 2.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement:

Novelty (N)	Claims	_____ 1-13 _____	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	_____	YES
	Claims	_____ 1-13 _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	_____ 1-13 _____	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Reference 1 JP 3-204672 A (Fuji Xerox Corporation, Ltd.) 06 September 1991,
page 5, left hand column, lines 3 through 17
& EP 441114 B1 & US 5123151 A & AU 635375 B & CA 2033602 C

Reference 2 JP 11-257345 A (Canon, Inc.) 21 September 1999,
entire document (no patent family)

The invention according to Claims 1 to 13 has no inventive step, based on Document 1 and Document 2 that were cited in the International Search Report. In Document 1, a porous polytetrafluoroethylene film with a thickness of 10 μm is wrapped around the surface of a roll having a mandrel, and a silicon rubber is applied to and impregnated into voids in the porous polytetrafluoroethylene film, whereupon the silicon rubber is crosslinked. The roll in Document 1 has a cylindrical rubber [layer]; however, a roll without this layer could be easily arrived at by one skilled in the art. Also, providing a release layer to the outermost surface, as described in Document 2, is a well-known technical feature in the associated technical field.